



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
August 18, 2003**

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**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA
(HIDTA) TASK FORCE**

METHUEN MAN CONVICTED OF CRACK DISTRIBUTION IN SALEM, NH

Re: United States v. Felix Rosario

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, and Salem Police Chief Paul Donovan announced that FELIX ROSARIO, DOB 5/28/76, of Methuen, MA was convicted on August 18, 2003 of possession with the intent to distribute cocaine base, aka "crack cocaine" in Salem, NH on November 14, 2002.

Rosario entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DeClerico, Jr. to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute cocaine base, aka "crack" cocaine in Salem, NH on November 14, 2004. Judge DeClerico released Rosario, under electronic bracelet monitoring to be conducted by the U.S. Department of Probation, pending his November 14, 2003 sentencing hearing in U.S. District Court in Concord. Rosario faces a maximum sentence of 20 years imprisonment.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This cooperative effort between the DEA, the FBI, and the Salem Police Department involving interstate crack cocaine trafficking is a prime example of the effectiveness of New England HIDTA, and the Northern New England HIDTA Task Force. I will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts."

The arrest resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the DEA's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force and the Salem Police Department's Drug Unit. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDEF").